

OPSB Meeting - Media Availability
February 11, 2022

Toronto Star: Justin Trudeau said the City hasn't exhausted its tools. What is your response that you do have the resources you need?

Chief Sloly:

- We continue to have constructive conversations
- We just had a call with all police chiefs in Ontario. We are looking at all different locations from Windsor to Ottawa and are trying to coordinate resource requirements for each area

La Presse: How many more officers do you still need?

Chief Sloly:

- We continue to have constructive and productive conversations with RCMP, Ontario police chiefs and chiefs across Ontario

CTV Ottawa: Have additional resources arrived in Ottawa?

Chief Sloly:

- With ongoing discussions, we are still not in a position to give a definitive answer as to what additional resources will come to Ottawa
- We're still using current resources we have to keep the city safe and to end the demonstration as swiftly and safely as possible

Globe and Mail: You've talked about an influx of demonstrators coming to the city this weekend. What is the magnitude of additional demonstrators we can expect in the next couple of days?

Chief Sloly:

- As of right now, we believe the total number of trucks will be similar to last weekend
- There are other planned demonstrations across Ontario (Windsor, Toronto)
- There is a lot of misinformation and disinformation – we are tracking that with intelligence agencies and will make adjustments as best we can with the resources we have

CBC Ottawa: The public is hearing that you need a lot more officers - 1,800. What is the response? What is the sense that you will have enough? Will that be supported by the provincial and federal government?

Chair Deans:

- We were clear about the resource requirement here and we do not have the resource requirement that we have asked for. The PM is under pressure, but I thought his comments were a little unfair. I think our Chief has been saying clear that we need more resources and the PM should point to how that is the case. Suggesting the Ottawa Police have enough resources is not fair because we are clearly hearing from the Chief that we need more.

Ottawa Citizen: Chair, do you continue to have confidence as we enter the third week of the demonstration?

Chair Deans:

- We continue to hear they need more help. My job is to do all I can to get them the resources they need. Everyone is extremely tired with no end in sight. They need help and resources and we're focused on getting that for them so they can do the job they need.

Le Droit: You talked about a volatile situation. How does that impede in your role?

Chief Sloly:

- Those are all elements of why this has been a uniquely challenging situation. It's a siege – not a traditional playbook that any police service would have
- We're learning in real time and making adjustments in real time
- We continue to utilize our resources and best practices in the quickest, most effective way possible to bring to an end the unlawful demonstration

Radio-Canada: Earlier, you said there might not be a policing solution. As of today, do you still have that same opinion, regardless of what is being said at the federal level?

Chief Sloly:

- We continue to do our very best and as you know, this has gone far beyond Ottawa
- I remain focused on my requirements as Chief to protect the city. I will continue to use all resources until the very end.

Canadian Press: Councillors have been asking for injunction. Now that the City is exploring this, will this be helpful? What will it allow you to accomplish?

- Moderator indicated the City's Legal team will be providing information on this to Council at a Special Council Meeting on Monday.